

SRS UPDATE

NEWS FROM THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE • SEPT./OCT. 2003



A United Way Project Serve volunteer, Genice Rutherford (left), assisted by SRTC employees Cathy Canada and Don Pak, replaces wooden boards on a wheelchair ramp at Augusta's Friendship Community Center.



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SRS begins test of paper as an alternate fuel source

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A message from Bob Pedde

President

Westinghouse

Savannah River Company

Each year, our campaign seems to stress at least two themes. One is the importance of recognizing a responsibility to our communities. A second is the idea that we never know when we may need to use the resources of a United Way agency. There are many people on site who share their personal stories to let others know that bad things can happen, regardless of your situation. Those can be powerful testimonials.

At SRS, we have a unique and successful partnership with our neighboring communities on either side of the Savannah River. Time after time, our mission efforts have been consistently supported, and it makes it so much easier to do our work successfully. It's gratifying to be able to return that support in some way, and the United Way is one such opportunity.

I congratulate all the campaign committee workers, the solicitors, the contributors, and everyone who had a part in this year's United Way effort.

The two stories on the facing page highlight one of the annual events that's a sure sign of fall – the site's United Way campaign.

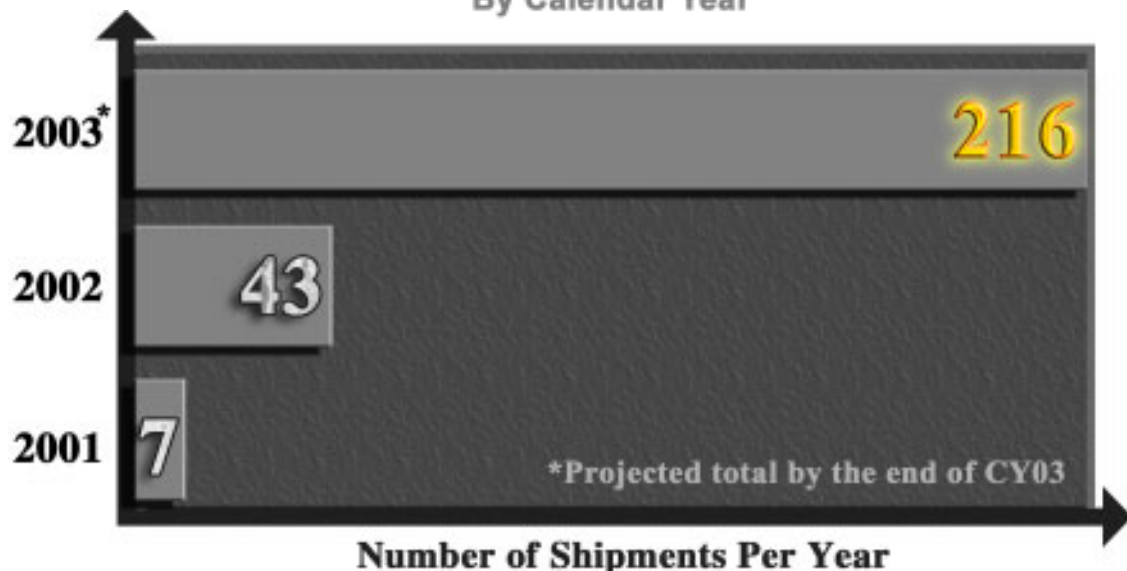
I am amazed each year at the creativity and generosity showed by our employees towards the United Way. Our campaign, along with DOE's Combined Federal Campaign, raised more than \$2.3 million. Those funds are spread among 12 area United Ways, and it's always a special event when we are able to reveal the campaign total to our agency neighbors. The money is raised not only through pledges, but through food sales, auctions, golf tournaments, dunking booths, and a variety of other devices.

For the past several years, our people have also been heavy participants in the United Way-sponsored volunteer projects in Aiken, Augusta and Barnwell counties. That's an opportunity to use a hammer and nails (or other tools) to perform repair jobs where they're most needed in the community. Literally hundreds of SRS people have pitched in since those project days came into being.

SRS MILESTONES

Transuranic Waste Shipments from SRS to New Mexico

By Calendar Year



SRS employees impact United Way's Projects CARE, VISION and SERVE

A large contingent of Savannah River Site employees – approximately 500 – made a difference in their communities by putting themselves to work in Aiken, Augusta and Barnwell as part of the United Way's Project CARE, Project VISION and Project SERVE.

Project CARE is a one-day volunteer initiative to address specific housing needs of citizens in Barnwell County, S.C.; Projects VISION and SERVE are a similar efforts, with VISION being held in Aiken and SERVE in Augusta and the CSRA. All three were held during September and October.

Volunteers participate through their employers to help



with home repairs for people who are unable to complete the repairs due to poor health or financial inability. Typical jobs include clearing yard debris, building wheel chair ramps, installing smoke detectors and replacing roofs.

"This is a great opportunity for Savannah River Site employees to be good neighbors in their community," said Louisiana Wright, 2003 SRS Employee United Way Campaign Chair. "We're excited that we've had a great response from employees. We're glad we could roll up our sleeves and pitch in."

Craig Baptiste, SRTC, uses a power saw to cut wood to repair a wheelchair ramp.

SRS Employee United Way Campaign raises over \$2.2 million

Westinghouse Savannah River Company, Bechtel Savannah River Inc., BNFL Savannah River Corporation and BWXT Savannah River Company employees donated a grand total of \$2,229,668 during their annual Employee United Way Campaign, 111 percent of the \$2,003,003 goal.

"Our employees, either individually or through teamwork, contributed to the success of this campaign. Whether it was picking up a hammer for the United Way's Project SERVE, Project CARE or Project VISION, or filling out a pledge card, every employee made a difference," said WSRC President Bob Pedde. "I am very proud that our employees continue to recognize and respond to the needs of our communities."

Twelve local agencies are designated to receive employee contributions. They are the United Way agencies of Colleton County, Screven County, McDuffie County, Hampton County, Allendale County, Edisto, Midlands, Bamberg County, Edgefield County, Barnwell County, CSRA and Aiken County.

For 50 years, SRS employees have supported a tradition of caring for the less fortunate and providing a better future for our communities through the support of the SRS Employee United Way Campaign.



Construction employees set new safety record at SRS



Bechtel Savannah River Construction employees achieved their first-ever safety milestone of 12 million safe hours without a lost-time injury resulting in days away from work.

“Our workforce takes the approach that safety is everyone’s responsibility, and I’m proud that our employees work so hard to keep themselves and their co-workers safe,” said Bill Elkins, President, BSRI, and Director of Project, Design and Construction Services for

the WSRC team. “Our workers continue to set the standard for safety excellence in the industry.”

The milestone was reached on Aug. 25.

Twelve million safe hours is equivalent to 6,000 employees working without a major injury in the construction industry for one year. An average construction firm in the United States usually experiences 192 lost-time accidents in 12 million hours worked.

The site as a whole recently received another safety-related honor, the DOE Voluntary Protection Program’s top award – the “Star of Excellence.”

Over 8,000 attend CSRA College Night 2003



Over 8,000 CSRA high school students and their parents recently took advantage of an opportunity to “shop” for colleges and universities at the annual CSRA College Night.

The event, now in its 11th year, brought recruiters from more than 160 colleges and universities all under one roof.

Since its inception, over \$121,000 in scholarships have been awarded by local businesses to students attending the event.

CSRA College Night is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy-Savannah River Operations Office, Westinghouse Savannah River Company and its partners (Bechtel Savannah River Inc., BNFL Savannah River Corporation and BWXT Savannah River Company and CH2SRC) and the SRP Federal Credit Union, in partnership with Augusta Area Independent Schools, The CSRA Classic, Inc., Clear Channel Radio/Power107, Augusta Coca-Cola Bottling Company and 4T’s Computers.

SRS closes 300th waste site

The Savannah River Site’s environmental restoration program recently reached a milestone, with the closure of its 300th waste site.

When remediation began in the early 1990s, there were 515 waste sites, including areas from a few feet to a few acres in size. Hazards included everything from small chemical spills to large radioactive waste sites.

Now, more than 60 percent of those are either closed or in progress, including the ones that were the most intricate and challenging.

The 300th to be remediated was the Ford Building Seepage Basin, which was constructed in 1964 to receive radioactive and hazardous wastewater from a nearby building where, until 1984, process reactor equipment was repaired.



A dual-auger grouting rig was used in FY02 to stabilize soil contaminated with radionuclides.

SRS begins test of paper as alternative fuel source

The Savannah River Site has begun a year-long test of a cost-effective new source of heating fuel that cuts the site's coal usage while reducing emissions and decreasing the amount of paper trash sent to the landfill.

The Site has traditionally used coal in its A-Area steam plant boiler to provide steam for heating and process support for the Savannah River Technology Center and other A-Area buildings. The steam plant has now begun testing a mixture of approximately 70 percent coal and 30 percent pellets made from the site's recycled paper and cardboard.

The Site Utilities Department conducted lengthy preliminary tests to verify that emissions from the steam plant using this new fuel mixture would be well within the state's clean air guidelines for incinerators. As a result, the Site received permission from South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control to test the fuel for one year.

According to Site Utilities Department Manager Tom Thome, the advantages of the mixed fuel begin with the reduced impact on the environment. "Emissions

from burning paper are lower than those from coal," he says. "Plus, we're burning less fossil fuel and replacing it with renewable fuels." The new fuel also brings economic advantages, he says. "Burning the trash paper, rather than burying it in a landfill, reduces the Site's waste disposal costs and reduces the amount of coal the Site must purchase."



Pellets made from the site's recycled paper are being used as fuel in the A-Area steam plant boiler.

Fingerprint detection: now inexpensive and easy



An Aiken Public Safety officer tests a new, innovative system that uses a high intensity light source for onsite fingerprint detection.

Researchers at the Savannah River Technology Center have developed a small, lightweight, battery-powered, high intensity light source for onsite fingerprint detection. Unlike expensive and cumbersome light sources currently used by law enforcement personnel, the BritePrint™ system offers hands-free operation during the investigative process. This advanced technology reveals otherwise invisible fingerprints and other latent markings at crime scenes and can save valuable time in the investigation process.

Using an array of light emitting diodes (LEDs), the BritePrint device emits wavelength-specific light of sufficient intensity to cause areas brushed with a dye to fluoresce visibly.

The low cost of the BritePrint system will make this device available to many law enforcement agencies that cannot afford today's technology.

An exclusive patent license agreement has been reached with Fingerprint Detection Technologies, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of UTEK Corporation, Plant City, Florida, to manufacture and commercialize WSRC's BritePrint™ Fingerprint Detection System. The license agreement is for 17 years or the life of any issued patent.

SRTC employees honored for providing keys to independence

A partially paralyzed man hurt in a traffic accident can hunt again with the aid of a wheelchair device built by SRTC engineer Cassy Robinson and Micah Boylston, an SRTC machinist.

A Columbia County teenager with cerebral palsy has a new chair that allows him to sit up straight thanks to Tom French. Augusta-area golf devotees who have trouble standing will be able to drive golf balls with an adjustable chair built by engineer Frank Heckendorn. Joel Jones has made it possible for a third grader with cerebral palsy to communicate on the go. The SRTC engineer devised a computer integration system that allowed the child to transport a small computer, and its communication program, when using his wheelchair.

These volunteers have joined forces with EnableTech, an organization that provides devices to individuals with disabilities seeking some independence from the misfortune that has stolen their physical abilities.

GOALS Program Coordinator Judie Thompson and Executive Director Pam Witter, Walton Foundation for Independence, recently honored the SRTC volunteers for their efforts.



WSRC President Bob Pedde (far left) and SRTC Director Dr. Todd Wright (far right) take part in honoring SRTC employees Cassy Robinson, Micah Boylston, Don Green, Tom French and Frank Heckendorn (left to right) as they were presented with "Appreciation of Service" awards from Walton Foundation for Independence. Also honored was Joel Jones, who was unable to attend the ceremony. The volunteers worked on various projects to improve the independence of individuals with disabilities.

Barefield exhibits ink drawings in Aiken

Frank Barefield Jr., a designer in the Automation group in the Design Services Department, was recently featured in the Aiken Standard for his exhibition of pen-and-ink drawings on the lower level of The Etherredge Center at the University of South Carolina-Aiken. Mr. Barefield draws directly on the paper with the ink, skipping any intermediate pencil or charcoal sketches. This "has a way of bringing out the natural ability in a person. It's definitely a challenge at times," he says.

Andre Gray named quarter's Office Professional

Andre Gray has been selected as the third quarter Office Professional. She was nominated for her many contributions to SRTC activities. She qualifies for the award by virtue of the work performed that satisfies essentially all of the criteria for this award. She consistently exceeds the expectations for her assignment to help anyone in need. Gray will join this year's other quarterly winners for possible honors as a President Award winner.



DeVine on board as new Closure Chief Officer

Jack DeVine, the new Chief Closure Officer at SRS, brings a unique perspective to managing the enormous WSRC Closure Business Unit.

He has extensive nuclear experience with General Public Utilities (GPU) and Polestar Applied Technology, Inc., the company he founded with two colleagues in 1992. He spent 22 years at GPU, seven years of which were at Three Mile Island, where he played a major role in emergency response and recovery following the 1979 nuclear incident.

Polestar, which currently employs about 50 profes-



sionals, focuses on helping nuclear facilities around the world with whatever problems, issues and challenges they may have. From his experience with Polestar, DeVine brings an appreciation for the importance of teamwork.

With DeVine's assignment as Chief Closure Officer, Polestar is taking its place as part of the WSRC team, along with WGI, Bechtel, BWXT, BNFL and CH2M Hill.

Mark Ferri joins WSRC Team

Mark Ferri is the new president and CEO of CH2SRC and project manager for Site D&D.

Ferri's previous assignment at Rocky Flats has provided lessons learned that will be helpful here. Though, Ferri says, it's a different situation at SRS.



A big difference between Rocky Flats and SRS is that Denver doesn't want Rocky Flats. "Here, the community wants SRS," says Ferri. "That's a huge difference, and an important one."

Sheer size is another considerable difference. "The technical challenges are greater here, but similar," he says. "Rocky is less than 10 square miles, and it will be a restricted wildlife area. This is obviously much bigger and more diverse, and there's a different set of considerations when you're working in a place where some facilities have a long-range future and others don't."

In both places there's the technical challenge of working with 50-year-old weapon sites.

SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

45 Years: Helen Villazor.

35 Years: Dora Cook; Judy McCall.

30 Years: William Best; Samuel Cunningham; Michael Dixon; Leroy Elmore; Ronald Fisher; James Fleming; Raymond Fulmer Jr; Earnest Glover; Joseph Hair; Douglas Lacer; Carlos Lucha; Jerry McGee; Leroy Myrick; Ricky Osment; Ranga Palaniswamy; Kanti Patel; Stephen Smith; Ronald Stallings.

25 Years: Jeffrey Allender; Charles Bland; Terri Bolton; Lynn Butler; Louis Dernetz; Carlos Dorthalina; Bruce Dragon; Martin Flowers; Amitava Ganguly; William Gattis Jr; Michael Glover; Merle Jenkins; Kondaswamy Kanakasundaram; William Kerley; Eddie Lee; Barry Myers; Timothy Reed; Paul Smith Jr; Ronald Steve; Steven Smith; David Swale; Barbara Tuthill; Jerry Zissett.

Retirements: Gerald Bach; Dorothy Barnes; Betty Bolen; Royce Boone Jr.; James Brosnahan; Gisle Bryant; Vonda Clerc; James Fallaw; Samuel Ford; Joye Glaze; Rhonda Green; Lana Griffin; Ron Hinds; Rita Hitchler; Emily Johnson; Bhagwan Joshi; Vinson Lamb; D. C. Miller; Kathy Moore; Charles Morgan; David Norred; Arthur Odom; George Owens; Charles Pair; Carman Provenzano; Donald Swindler; Steven Walling.

SRS begins onsite mobile mammograms

Through a partnership with University Health Care System, mobile mammography will be available to Department of Energy (DOE-SRS), Westinghouse Savannah River Company Team, Wackenhut Services Inc., Savannah River Ecology Laboratory and USDA Forest Service-Savannah River employees.

During a special ceremony, site senior management and University Hospital Health Care System officials celebrated mobile mammography for site employees, and recognized Breast Cancer Awareness Month beginning in October.

"We're excited to provide an additional opportunity for employees to receive mammograms conveniently at their workplace," says WSRC President Bob Pedde. "It's important to provide employees all the tools to take care of their safety and health, both in the workplace and in their personal lives."

An all-female team of registered radiological technologists with advanced training in the discipline of mammography staff the mobile unit. The same board-certified radiologists at The Imaging Center who read mammograms per-

formed at both University Hospital and The Imaging Center will interpret all mammograms.

"Remember these statistics," says Randy Cooper, M.D., a general surgeon on the University Hospital Medical Staff. "One in eight women will develop breast cancer during her lifetime, and one in 33 will die from it. Yet, it is estimated



University Hospital's Mobile Mammography Unit is now reaching women unable to come to University's on-site center.

that one-third of all breast cancer deaths in America each year could be prevented by early detection. Breast cancer treated in its early stage can usually be treated successfully."



The "SRS Update" is published bimonthly by Westinghouse Savannah River Company. If you have questions or comments about any of the articles, please call 803.952.9583. Or visit our Web site at www.srs.gov.

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